

Thomas Jefferson to Benjamin H. Latrobe, Surveyor of the Public Buildings, March 6, 1803, two same date, from Thomas Jefferson and the National Capital. Edited by Saul K. Padover.

Jefferson to Latrobe THE PRESIDENT TO BENJAMIN H. LATROBE

March 6, 1803

Dear Sir: The letter in which this is inclosed being a public one, and to be produced whenever necessary as a voucher, I have thought that it would be useful to add a word in one of a private and friendly nature. From the sum of \$50,000 we shall take between \$5,000 and \$10,000 for covering the north wing of the Capitol and the President's House.

The residue of \$40,000 to \$45,000 will be employed in building the south wing, as far as it will go. I think it will raise the external walls as far as the uppermost window sills, being those of the entresols, and I have no doubt Congress at their next session will give another \$50,000, which will Complete that wing inside and out in the year 1804 . . . Should you think proper to undertake it, if you come on here on a flying trip, as suggested in my other letter, you can advise with Mr. Munroe, who will set into motion whatever you may desire, and if you can be here finally the first week in April you will find me here, and everything may be put under full sail for the season. Accept my best wishes and respects.

P.S.—I think a great deal of sheet iron will be wanting.

[Glenn Brown, HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL, I, 32–33.]